

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 080719Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4136

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5734

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, IS

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

REF: TEL AVIV 5350

1. DAN HALPERIN, ADVISOR TO MINISTER OF FINANCE, CALLED OCT 7 ABOUT BOYCOTT QUESTION, HE REFERRED TO SEPTEMBER 19 CONVSATION (REFTEL) AND SAID THAT HE IS GOING TO U.S. NEXT WEEK FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSE OBTAINING BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF MAGNITUDE OF PROBLEM AND IDEAS ON WHAT MIGHT BE DONE ABOUT IT. HE PLANS TO BE IN NEW YORK OCTOBER 17-21 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAELI OFFICIALS AND BUSINESS INTERESTS. ON OCTOBER 22 HE WILL GO TO WASHINGTON WHERE HE HOPES TO HAVE TALKS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS ON SUBJECT. HE ASKED IF EMBASSY COULD ASSIST IN ARRANING APPROPRIATE CONTACTS IN WASHINGTON FOR HIM. WE REPLIED THAT WE WOULD INFORM DEPARTMENT OF HIS REQUEST AND SUGGESTED THAT HE CONTACT WALTER SMITH (NEA/IAI) IN THIS REGARD ON HIS ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON.

2. COMMENT. HALPERIN APPARENTLY HAS HIGH-LEVEL BACKING TO PURSUE BOYCOTT QUESTION FOR GOI. HE SEEMS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT ATTITUDE OF RAYTHEON AND FMC AND MAY WELL ASK FOR US INTERVENTION WITH THOSE FIRMS. AS SUGGESTED REFTTEL, ISRAELIS MAY ALSO SEEK US CONGRESSIONAL ASSISTANCE ON BOYCOTT. IN CIRCUMSTANCES, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL IF APPROPRIATE HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS MET WITH
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HALPERIN AND IMPRESSED UPON HIM THE LIMITS ON WHAT USG

CAN DO ABOUT BOYCOTT AS WELL AS RELATIONSHIP OF BOYCOTT
TO PROGRESS TOWARD GENERAL MID-EAST POLITICAL SETTLEMENT.
KEATING

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Message Attributes

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